

Teamsters Local 542, as he is honored by the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO for his leadership in the successful United Parcel Service (UPS) strike of 1997.

Phil and the Teamsters gathered overwhelming public support for working families and the plight of the growing part-time workforce during the UPS strike—and his leadership in bringing the UPS contract to a successful settlement is being acknowledged by this Leadership Award.

Under Phil's direction, dozens of strike counselors were trained to provide food and financial assistance to Teamsters during their contract dispute. Five hundred checks, totaling \$30,000, were written to assist workers with their bills, and thousands of pounds of food were distributed.

Phil is also a member of the Labor Council's Board of Directors and is a supporter of the Unity Coalition of Organized Labor in San Diego.

My congratulations go to Phil Saal for these significant contributions. I can attest to Phil's dedication and commitment and believe him to be highly deserving of the San Diego-Imperial Counties Labor Council, AFL-CIO Leadership Award.

HONORING BLISSFIELD YOUTH

HON. NICK SMITH

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. SMITH of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to four of my constituents who have demonstrated the true meaning of community service. So many people talk about the need to get involved and pitch in when they see a problem, but my district is blessed to have four young people who put those words into action.

This week, the Make A Difference Day committee, organized by USA Weekend, named the group of Christi Stoker, Natalie Eisenmann, Amanda Nicolai, and Stephanie Powell among ten recipients of a national award from the Make A Difference Day Foundation.

These girls offered some helping hands to a homeless shelter in Toledo, not too far from their hometown of Blissfield, Michigan. The girls, who are 13, organized a coalition of community members to donate books, games, wallpaper, and other materials to make this shelter more of a home for the kids and their parents who sought refuge there. They ended up collecting more than \$800 in contributions for the shelter.

And, these special young people didn't stop there. They helped a young girl at the shelter and her mother find a place to live. The girls still stay in touch with the family to whom they gave this precious gift.

Mr. Speaker, we are a nation that turns famous people into heroes—TV and movie stars and our national journalists. But to me, America's true heroes are those who devote time and energy in their communities to give, offer assistance and compassion to those who need it.

Few people have performed that task better than Christi Stoker, Natalie Eisenmann, Amanda Nicolai, and Stephanie Powell.

CREDIT UNION MEMBERSHIP ACCESS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 1, 1998

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1151, the Credit Union Membership Access Act. I am proud to have been an original cosponsor of this important legislation.

My vote is a continuation of longstanding personal backing for credit unions in general. I believe they provide an invaluable service to working men and women—a service which is both convenient and comfortable.

Credit unions are familiar places which in many cases don't offer a full range of banking services but nevertheless do provide basic financial assistance—whether it be pocket money or a small unsecured loan.

After the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia overturned a credit union decision in July of 1996, many of us in Congress realized the need for legislation to protect credit union members. Today's vote is the culmination of our efforts.

By passing this legislation, we allow Americans to choose the institution in which they put their money. By promoting continued operation of credit unions in a sound and reasonable manner, we spur competition and encourage savings. By supporting credit unions in this manner, we demonstrate our faith in the wisdom of working people.

On behalf of my constituents in central New York who will benefit from this consumer protection law, I want to thank the House for today's passage.

DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARD RECIPIENTS FROM COLORADO'S FOURTH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Mr. BOB SCHAFFER of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Distinguished Teacher Award recipients from Colorado's Fourth Congressional District. These educators have committed their lives to teaching young minds in the Poudre School District. As individuals devoted to excellence, possessing talent, patience, fortitude, a personal love of learning, and the kind of tough love necessary to teach children, these individuals are the pride of our community and a credit to their profession. To the men and women of this Chamber and to the people of Colorado, I echo the words of Distinguished Awards Founder, Harry McCabe, "You have these very special people who have dedicated themselves to the young people in our society." Let us today honor them by name.

Distinguished Teacher William 'Skip' Caddoo of Leshar Junior High School, eight years of dedication to our schools.

Distinguished Teacher Jayne Hennen of Poudre High School, 22 years of dedication to our schools.

Distinguished Teacher Nancy Jacobs of Eyestone Elementary School, 19 years of dedication to our schools.

Distinguished Teacher Lana Jensen of Lopez Elementary School, 12 years of dedication to our schools.

Distinguished Teacher Ronald Jensen of Fort Collins High School, 14 years of dedication to our schools.

Distinguished Teacher Larry Lashley of Poudre High School, 27 years of dedication to our schools.

Distinguished Teacher Sandy Martinez of Lincoln Junior High School, 16 years of dedication to our schools.

Distinguished Teacher Tim Pearson of Riffenburgh Elementary School, 16 years of dedication to our schools.

Mr. Speaker, as you know, excellence in education has been the focus of my efforts since my days in the Colorado State Senate. As the son of two school teachers and the father of three children who attend public schools (and one on her way), no issue is closer to my heart and home. Exceptional public school teachers deserve our admiration, not only for their hard work but for the sheer weight of their accomplishments—the cultivation of an educated citizenry. These inspirational individuals give me a glimpse into what the future can hold if we let it. If we continue to improve our system by recognizing and building on the achievements of great educators like these men and women, the sky is the limit for American education.

HONORING FRED HIRT

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 23, 1998

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, next week, the Mount Sinai Medical Center, one of the leading medical centers in the United States, must wave good bye to Fred Hirt, its CEO and the individual responsible for many of the Center's most notable achievements. With much appreciation and admiration, the residents of the 18th Congressional district wish Fred much success as he progresses into the next phase of his professional life.

As CEO of Mount Sinai Medical Center, South Florida's only private, not-for-profit independent teaching hospital, Fred, who has been twice named "Best Hospital Administrator" by Medical Business, has achieved many notable accomplishments of great benefit to South Florida. The many achievements during his tenure include the construction of a state-of-the-art Comprehensive Cancer Center, the development of one of Dade County's most active cardiac programs, the establishment of the Wien Center for Alzheimer's Disease and Memory Disorders, and the acquisition of the St. Francis-Barry Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Moreover, he has also supervised the contribution of an estimated \$10 million each year for the care of South Florida's indigent population.

A specific example of Fred's vision has been his ability, over a decade ago, to identify those forces that would be of great value to today's health care industry: outpatient satellite facilities. For over a decade, Mount Sinai, with Fred at the helm, set up its first